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## REGISTERED BEFORE THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE REGISTRATION NUMBER 33,731

SOUTHPORT OFFICE: 801 N. HOWE STREET P. O. BOX, 10266 SOUTHPORT, N. C. 28461 (910) 457-0056 800 · 206 · 9044 TOLL FREE DURHAM OFFICE: 2003 CHAPEL HILL ROAD DURHAM, N. C. 27707 (919) 683-2120

November 15, 2003

Commissioner of Patents Mail Stop NEW APPLICATION P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith for filing is the patent application of Tianging He, Ali Regimand, Lawrence James, and Peter Muse, individuals and United States Citizens for a Device and Methods for Rapid Drying of Porous Materials. Mr. He, Mr. Regimand, Mr. James, and Mr. Muse are individuals and qualify for small entity status and hereby request small entity status for payment of reduced fees. Enclosed in this package are:

- A specification of 24 pages; (a)
- 43 claims including 2 independent claims; (b)
- Formal drawings consisting of 4 pages; (c)
- A PTO Form 1449, an Information Disclosure Statement of 2 pages and copies of (d) 10 references.
- (f) A Certificate of Mailing by Express Mail;
- A Return Receipt Postcard. (g)
- A check in the amount of \$592. (h)

Pursuant to provisions 37 C.F.R. 110 and 153 Applicant respectfully requests this application be assigned a Serial Number with the filing date of 15 November 2003, the date upon which this application was mailed to the Patent and Trademark Office by Express Mail. A check

Commissioner for Patents November 12, 2003 Page 2

for \$ 592 is enclosed. It is believed this is the correct filing fee since the application has no more than 3 independent claims and no more than 43 total claims.

Inventor's Affirmations and powers of attorney will be with the surcharge at a later time. If there are any further fees or if anything further is required from me, please notify me immediately. Thank you very much for your attention to this matter and for your help and cooperation.

This the 15 day of Nbv, 2003.

Mulieu O E Marriey Michael E. Mauney

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Registration #33,731

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Tianqing He, Ali Regimand, Lawrence James, and Peter Muse,

Filed:	Herewith
For:	DEVICE AND METHODS FOR RAPID DRYING OF POROUS MATERIALS
Mail D P. O. F	issioner for Patents Prop NEW APPLICATION Box 1450 adria, VA 22313-1450
	"Express Mail" mailing label number <u>EU462093768US</u> Date of Deposit <u>15 November 200</u>
I hereb	y certify that the attached:  Amendment Disclaimer Response Application
	other
are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner of for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450	
Name	of person mailing documents: Michael E. Mauney
Signato	Respectively submitted,  Willow E Warren  Michael E. Mauney  Registration No. 33,731  P.O. Box 10266  Southport, N.C. 28461  (910) 457-0056